Restoration Work of Vigyan Bhawan

113. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the restoration work of Vigyan Bhawan estimated to cost Rs. 10 crore has been given to a Bombay based consultancy group without any design competition required under the normal convention for awarding the work; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). Design competition is appropriate for new construction. As the present is only for restoration of the Vigyan Bhawan, Design competition was not held. However, open competitive offers were called and the work was awarded after deliberation and careful scrutiny by a Committee.

Alleged Construction of a Building

114. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the report appearing in the Indian Express dated 26 September, 1991 regarding construction of building worth crores of rupees allegedly with the involvement of Architecture Department of NDMC;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to ascertain the number of such unauthorised building constructed during the last two years and the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) and (b). The NDMC has intimated that this is not the case of a new unauthorisely constructed building but that of unauthorised construction carried out in the form of addition/alteration. The unauthorised construction was detected by the NDMC at the initial stage and the question of involvement of its Architectural Department is under investigation by the NDMC. Legal and departmental action us under process.

(c) There is an unauthorised Construction Cell in the NDMC and its main duty is to survey the area under its jurisdiction to detect unauthorised construction and initiate legal action against the defaulters under the provisions of Punjab Municipal Act. The NDMC has intimated that during the last two years 414 cases of unauthorised construction in the form of addition/alteration in the existing buildings or in the form of deviations from the sanctioned plans have been detected by the NDMC and action taken under the Punjab Municipal Act.

Awarding of Contracts without Tenders

115. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been cases where the Engineering Department of the Delhi Development Authority had awarded contracts without inviting tenders during the last two years;

(b) if so, the number of such contracts awarded; the amount involved in each contract the parties to whom the contracts were awarded and the reasons for awarding these